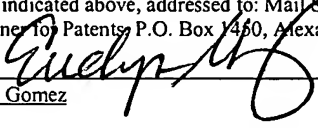


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Appl. No. : herewith
Applicant : Messing, Robert O., et al.
Filed : October 1, 2003
TC/A.U. : not yet known
Examiner : not yet known

Confirmation No. _____

Docket No. : 316E-000112US
Customer No. : 22798

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to calculating the filing fees for the above-identified application, please consider the application in light of the amendments and remarks below.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this paper.